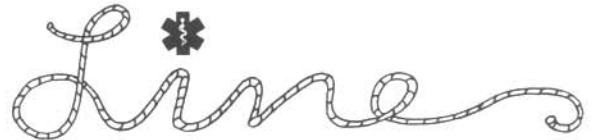




RESCUE



SPOTLIGHT ON . . .

By Steve Carden

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Vernon Debord

REGIONALIZATION OF SPECIALIZED RESCUE - PART TWO



Water Rescue Operations can become highly technical. Swiftwater rescues many times employ complicated rope systems to effect a safe rescue. Dive rescue missions (above) require not only expensive equipment and highly trained divers, but an effective surface support crew to be successful.

Part one of this article looked at why we need to consider development of regional specialized rescue resources. Part two will discuss the types of teams needed and update the status of our preliminary programs in these areas.

Training is very important. The best rescue teams learn through training and real experience as to how to adapt equipment to different situations and how to combine different capabilities to different situations to complete a rescue. The cost of technical rescue training can be very expensive, but the availability of regional training classes and the use of sponsors to help pay for specialized training is one way to offset some related costs. The training demands are particularly challenging for volunteer teams due to the time commitments that are necessary to develop and maintain skills. The availability of trained volunteer members to respond to incidents is a problem that our volunteer technical rescue teams must face. By drawing from a large pool of volunteers across many different

units and utilizing key individuals from the public sector, it is hoped to bolster the number of available personnel. Rescue equipment, especially for some disciplines, such as confined space or collapse incidents, can be very expensive. Additionally, the cost of equipping and preparing for a rescue situation that may be infrequent or not very obvious is difficult to justify. Still though, the sharing of equipment costs among several units and the possibility of some degree of state sponsorship will make these costs more affordable.

While the needs for certain types of regionalized rescue teams are diverse across our State, (as dictated by terrain, industry, and natural hazards) we have identified a preliminary list of teams that may be needed.

- **Confined Space Rescue** poses some of the most difficult challenges for rescue personnel. A confined space is generally defined as an area that is large enough for workers to enter but has

limited entry and egress, and is not designed for continuous occupancy. Areas such as silos, storage tanks, manholes, and crawl spaces in industry can all be considered confined spaces. Rescuers may be called upon to rescue workers or other victims who may not have been properly equipped or who have entered a confined space accidentally or unknowingly. Rescue teams that respond to this type of incident will have to be prepared and able to comply with confined space regulations.

- **Collapse Rescue** more often poses the objective of removing the hazard from the trapped victim versus removing the victim from the hazard. At building collapse incidents, rescuers must locate the victims, remove whatever is trapping them, and then remove them from the rubble. Similarly, trench rescue involves removing

(See Specialization on Page 3)

I would like to take this opportunity to *Thank* everyone who attended the February and June Region Meetings. this year. I would also like to encourage everyone to attend what is sure to be a fantastic convention this October in Chattanooga.

The co-hosting squads of Hamilton County are working very hard to make this convention a great one. I hope each unit puts together a team to compete in the different activities that will be offered there. I am looking forward to seeing each of you at your convention.

Now, at this time I would like to *Thank* each and every individual for their support these past two years as your TARS President. It has only been with your help and support to make this dream and honor of mine come true and I sincerely *Thank You!*

A WINNER'S BLUEPRINT FOR ACHIEVEMENT

- BELIEVE** while others are doubting.
- PLAN** while others are playing
- STUDY** while others are sleeping.
- DECIDE** while others are delaying.
- PREPARE** while others are daydreaming.
- BEGIN** while others are procrastinating.
- WORK** while others are wishing.
- SAVE** while others are wasting.
- LISTEN** while others are talking.
- SMILE** while others are pouting.
- COMMEND** while others are criticizing.
- PERSIST** while others are quitting.

William Arthur Ward.

STATE AND REGIONAL REPORTS

STATE VICE PRESIDENT

By Johnny Tummins

The old saying of "Time flies when you're having fun or staying busy" has proved to be true this year. I have really enjoyed the tours and the fellowship at all the squads visited and at the meetings. It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve as your Vice President this year. Thanks to everyone for your support and words of encouragement.

With the convention just around the bend, I encourage everyone to attend to make this a record year. Good luck to all teams preparing for the competitions at the convention. You are already a winner for just entering.

With the introduction of the Watercraft Rescue Course, we now have another training class developed to add to our list of quality courses. Thanks to everyone who was involved in getting this course developed.

Again, thanks for your support this year and I am looking forward to seeing you in Chattanooga in October.

CHAPLAINS CORNER

By Roy L. Goddard

ATTENTION RESCUE CHAPLAINS!

We are planning a session for RESCUE CHAPLAINS on Thursday at the state convention in Chattanooga. This will concern the duties and responsibilities of the Chaplain. Come participate and meet your fellow Chaplains. There will be opportunity to discuss situations and ask questions. Make plans now to attend.

The seminar will be conducted from 12:30 - 1:30 prior to the two track educational seminar offered later that day. Please indicate your interest on the attached convention registration form.

REGION I VICE PRESIDENT

By Ron Smith

I hope everyone is doing fine. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their prayers and the notes that were sent to me while I was under the weather. Everything went great with my surgery and I'm doing fine now.

We have had a lot of requests for different types of training this year. Morris and the instructors have done a great job in getting the classes set up and presented to you. There have been several different classes offered, such as Farm Rescue, Bus Rescue, Extrication, WaterCraft Rescue, and SwiftWater Rescue. I hope everyone has had the opportunity to take some or all the classes that have been taught.

It is also time to be getting your teams ready for competition at the convention. Remember you can't win if you don't enter. Also, be thinking of a person in your squad who has done something to deserve one of the awards that is given at convention and submit their name for consideration. I look forward to seeing everyone at convention.

STATE HISTORIAN

By Bill Sowell

I hope all TARS members are having a safe and enjoyable summer. The June region meetings will have come and gone by the time the Rescue Line gets to you. I hope everyone enjoyed their respective region meetings.

Convention will soon be here, I hope a big number of squads are preparing to enter a scrapbook in this year's contest. Remember to send me pictures and newspaper articles for the state scrapbooks, so you will earn 10 extra points.

Even if you don't enter a scrapbook in competition, send your picture and newspaper articles to be put in the state scrapbook so other TARS members can see what work your squad has done.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the TARS Convention in Chattanooga.

STATE SECRETARY

By Wayne Cole

I hope everyone has had a good year and have been well blessed. I look forward to seeing everyone at the convention.

All squads need to make sure your roster is updated by September 1 for the Julian Wise award. This award is given to the squad that has the most new squad members turned in for 1997.

I thank you for your support in the past and look forward to continue serving you in the future.

PAST PRESIDENT

By Joe Arnold

As the TARS Officers and I traveled across the State during June, we visited many of your squads. We would like to thank each of you for taking your time to meet us, showing us your equipment and buildings, and for showing an interest in our Association. We appreciate your suggestions for new training classes and for helping us grow into the future.

Another year is over half gone, and our 1997 State Convention is fast approaching. This year our Convention will be in Chattanooga at the Choo-Choo on October 2, 3, & 4. The State Officers, the Convention Committee, and the Host Squads are making plans for a great convention. Save your vacation and make plans to attend. Remember the excitement of participating in the competition events . . . and get your teams ready to compete in first aid, extrication, rescue challenge, rambling rescue race, and everything else. You can't win a trophy if you don't enter the competition! Let's all work together to make our Convention a big success.

Success is achieved only by those who try. When there is nothing to lose and everything to gain by trying - by all means try it!

W. Clement Stone
American Publisher and Author

EVENTS CALENDAR

1997 TARS MEETINGS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JULY 19 - MURFREESBORO
OCTOBER 3 - CHATTANOOGA

1997 ANNUAL CONVENTION

OCT 2, 3, 4 - CHATTANOOGA

RESCUE COLLEGE

INSTRUCTOR I - JULY 25 - 27
HUMBOLDT AREA RESCUE

WATERCRAFT RESCUE
AUG 8-10
FRANKLIN CO RESCUE

SWIFTWATER I RESCUE
AUG 22-24
POLK CO/OCOEE RIVER

SWIFTWATER II - SEPT 19 - 21
HIWASSIEE/TELLICO RIVER

DIVE RESCUE - SEPT 26 - 28
WINCHESTER, TN

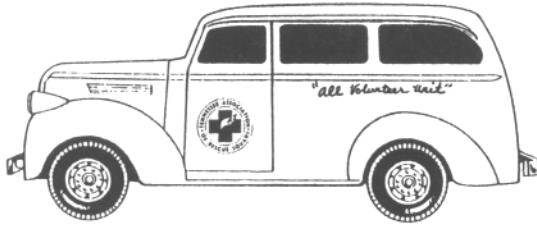
Specific information regarding meetings and training will be mailed to each TARS unit usually 30 days in advance. Training classes and dates are subject to cancellations or rescheduling.

FOR SALE

AMBULANCE, 1993 WHEELED COACH TYPE I
GAS ENGINE, LESS THAN 35K ON FACTORY
ENGINE/TRANSMISSION REPLACEMENT

\$7500.00

HICKORY TREE RESCUE SQUAD - 423-538-3393



3rd in a Series ERTL Car Ordered

This year's collectable is on order and will be available at the convention in Chattanooga for those who have submitted a pre-paid order. This year's selection is a 1946 Chevy Suburban complete with red lights and siren attachments. It is the third "Van Bank" collectable in a series of five offered by the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads. A limited number may be available to be purchased (cost \$20 each) at the convention, but will be offered only on a "first come first served" basis.

Each year a drawing has been conducted in each TARS region among individuals and squads who purchased the van banks.

The drawings were conducted at the June series of region meetings. The winners will receive one night's lodging, two registrations, and two banquet tickets to this year's convention in Chattanooga.

Congratulations goes to the winners listed below.

Region I - Hawkins County Rescue Squad.

Region II - Kenny Blaker, Scott County Rescue Squad.

Region III - Michael Hutcheson, Warren County Rescue Squad.

Region IV - Benton County Rescue Squad.

FIRE DAMAGES DECATUR RESCUE SQUAD BUILDING

A fire, which was apparently sparked by an electrical malfunction in Decatur County's crash truck, resulted in serious damage to their building a few weeks ago. The crash truck cab section was totally destroyed, but the rescue box has been determined salvageable and luckily the equipment in the compartments was undamaged. Captain Howard Keeton was quick to praise the efforts of the local fire department (most of whose members are also squad members that responded) who extinguished the fire and prevented what would have been a total loss of the building and all equipment. Keeton also commended

VFIS, Steve Frost Agency, for their quick action and commitment to help keep the unit in service and provide replacement assistance on the truck and speed repairs on the building. The entire roof system, insulation, and some structural components are to be replaced. This is in addition, of course, to serious smoke damage to the entire interior which must be refurbished. "We were lucky. We could have lost everything, but everybody is pulling together and we haven't missed a call," Keeton said. The squad is housing its equipment in various fire halls while repairs are underway.

(Specialization con't from Page 1)

dirt or other debris that have collapsed around a victim. Cribbing, shoring, and concrete/heavy object removal are all factors that these teams must be prepared to deal with.

- **Water Rescue** is a very common emergency need in Tennessee. The hazards posed by ponds, lakes, rivers, and drainage easements are prevalent in most every area of our State. Time is usually a very critical factor in water rescues and a victim's chances of survival diminish rapidly in drowning incidents with rescue efforts quickly becoming body retrieval efforts. In surface water incidents both calm and swift water techniques must be available. Dive teams may be utilized in underwater rescue operations and must be prepared to operate in "dirty" or swiftwater conditions.
- **Land Search Rescue** is also a common emergency need in Tennessee. Wilderness searches have to be conducted every year for lost children, hikers, explorers, the elderly, and many times sportsmen, who have become disoriented in the outdoors. Since much

of Tennessee is mountainous and dotted with caves, rope and high angle techniques as well as cave rescue teams are needed. The ability to track, locate, and stabilize victims will be capabilities required of any land SAR team.

The Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads (TARS) has encouraged regional training and mutual aid efforts for over forty years as evidenced by the objectives it was founded upon. Recent priorities have continued to evolve and address the need of technical rescue and to promote the regionalization of these type resources. In 1994, TARS entered into a Memoranda of Understanding with the State of Tennessee to work toward the development of resources that could be made available in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. In March of 1996 TARS adopted through its Board of Directors an operating procedure and addendum for use and guidance in developing specialized rescue teams. Further amendments were adopted by the Board in October which detailed the committee structure that will oversee the development of specific regional teams.

TARS will continue to promote networking between units within our organization and will continue to

work closely with other emergency agencies statewide in nature. Programs which provide rescue training are offered on a regular basis and give squads the opportunity to exchange techniques and ideas. We also hope to encourage standardization of techniques where it is practical and improve the reliability of resource lists which we publish. Our current efforts include establishing committees and pilot programs to develop the first regional rescue teams as discussed.

Formation of initial pilot programs has been determined by the level of membership interest in given areas combined with the anticipated need of a particular resource. While only one pilot program will be started in each of the three grand divisions of the State initially, the knowledge gained during the development process can later be used to create similar programs if needed in other areas. East Tennessee is being slated to work toward the development of an Urban Search and Rescue Task Force capable of dealing with Structural Collapse Rescue situations. That committee has been appointed and is currently moving toward adopting training standards and application procedures for interested members. Middle Tennessee will be tasked to develop a dive rescue resource

within the Water Rescue category. Committee appointments are pending but include interest from representatives of the Wildlife Resources and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. West Tennessee is being looked at for providing the initial development of a regional Land Search team which will include the use of Man Tracking team and K-9 Tracking techniques.

Whether or not the goal of regionalization of rescue teams will become a reality is mainly dependent on three factors. One is the commitment and participation of our members in the volunteer rescue service. Two is the continued cooperation and support of both State and local government in this effort. And three is the level of support received by the public, other emergency agencies, and manufacturers in areas such as finances, endorsements, and training assistance.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Technical Rescue Technology Assessment United States Fire Administration; Federal Emergency Management Agency

Photos credit Rescue Magazine
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AN OLYMPIC REFLECTION

As we get ready to enter the new season for 1997; we would like to take a moment to reflect on the 1996 season. The 1996 season brought the Olympics to the Ocoee Region. In preparation for this event, many people trained in all areas that would effect the people participating, whether as athletes or spectators.

East Polk Fire and Rescue trained for the previous three years to participate in the greatest event to come to Polk County. The members trained in swiftwater, verticle, trench, all types of extrication, wildland and structure fire, and many courses on dealing with individuals from all over the world. The training totalled a minimum of 100 man hours per member. Each member was cross-trained in all aspects, but each had an expertise. These members dedicated time for the training with the knowledge they weren't guaranteed a position in the Olympics.

Every member of East Polk Fire and Rescue, plus a few selected

members from other squads participated in the Olympics. Some members, because of the position held or special circumstances, can be brought to the forefront. Hubert Ray, TARS Unit Director, worked closely with TARS to keep the organization informed on our progress with accreditation in the Olympics. Margie Ray, Secretary/Treasurer, was in charge of base operations. This position kept her busy manning our staging area and making sure all the volunteers had the supplies and knowledge they needed. The volunteers that worked with Margie should be commended for the work they did to keep the home front running smoothly. Jim Bostic, Training Officer, was taken out of the fire/rescue position and put into security. This position meant he had to work with all 25 different law enforcement agencies from Secret Service to City Officers to coordinate venue security. A few other squads participated in the Olympics through hand-picked members that met the strict training requirements. The squads that attended were Monroe County,

Bradley County, McMinn County, Sevier County, Etowah, Cherokee County NC, Fannin County GA.

Dale Ray, East Polk Director, worked diligently with a few other members to show the Olympic Committee that we were the "little squad that could." Dale Ray was named Incident Commander, a hat that he wore both on and off the venue. Dale was in charge of making plans for any possible incident that could occur on or off the venue and then implementing those plans. He coordinated efforts for safety of people on venue and en route to the venue. He worked with the medical staff to handle the over 600 cases of medical incidents on the venue. He implemented the plan to set up a water curtain with a portable pump to reduce heat related medical incidents. He worked on safe landing zones for

medical evacuation. It was also his responsibility for the landing zone when delegates arrived such as, Vice President Al Gore and the President of Peru.

Dale Ray and East Polk Fire and Rescue have received many commendations, among a few were the Governor of Tennessee, Director of TEMA, Director of ACOG, and Director of TODA to mention a few. Under Dale's direction East Polk with the cooperation of TARS members can look back on 1996 and this event with pride and the feeling of not only neighbors helping neighbors, but a community helping the world.

EDITORS NOTE: This article was compiled from information submitted by Jim Bostic, member of East Polk Fire and Rescue.



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